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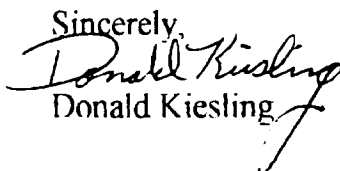
Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to express my opinion that the lawsuits that have been brought against Microsoft should have never occurred in the first place. Now, I hope that the tentative settlement is confirmed and that the nine states that still opposed will end their lawsuits.

As a user and consumer, I do not feel that my rights have been infringed upon in any way. I own and use some of Microsoft's products and services as well as some of their competitors and do not feel as though I've been harmed in any way as to my ability to make my own choices for these products and services. In many cases the products and services of Microsoft are far superior to any other vendors and their prices are in line with the technology they deliver. In the settlement Microsoft has agreed to open the intellectual property of its internal Windows interface to its competitors, to promote interoperability with non-Microsoft software, and even have a full-time three-person technical committee monitor its own compliance. I, personally, don't believe they should have to do these things; but I assume Microsoft is willing to do so, so that we can all move on and put an end to these senseless lawsuits. Microsoft represents a free enterprise success that should be a model for our country's entrepreneurs to follow. Microsoft should not be punished for being successful.

In the best interest of the public, I urge you to expeditiously make an end of this matter so that you can focus your office on real issues, such as international security and tax issues. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donald Kiesling

cc: Senator Rick Santorum